

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

U.S. Patent No.: 6,400,663
Applicant: Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.
Inventor(s): Yuu OKADA, et al.
Issued:: June 4, 2002
Examiner: Paul W. Huber
Reissue App. No.: TBD
Reissue Filed: TBD
Docket No.: 28569.6555
Client Ref.: F5-03966371/P23491-(01 Reissue)
Customer No.: 20322

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Honorable Commissioner:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, the reference or references listed and identified on the attached PTO-1449 based form are being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of each listed reference is included herewith.

The reference or references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or contain matter which anticipates the invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d), and (e)(1) where each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent

office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement, therefore no fee or statement is required. If Applicant has overlooked any fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit Deposit Account no. 19-2814 for the same. **A duplicate copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for this purpose.**

If there are any questions concerning this IDS, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2814.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12-31-03

By: 
Shahpar Shahpar
Reg. No. 45,875

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.
One Arizona Center
400 East Van Buren
Phoenix, AZ 85004-2202
Telephone: (602) 382-6306
Facsimile: (602) 382-6070
E-mail: sshahpar@swlaw.com
1453665.1

Form PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (REV. 8-83) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE <div style="text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</div> <div style="text-align: center;">(Use several sheets if necessary)</div>				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 28569.6555		SERIAL NO. TBA	
				APPLICANTS Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.			
				FILING DATE December 31, 2003		GROUP ART UNIT TBA	
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION
		5-12683	22 JAN 1993	Japan			Yes
Japan Office Action			1 SEP 2003	Japan			No
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		European Search Report dated 13 January 2003					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							